

23070

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

Circular - "About A  
Great Intelligence  
Service"

ACTION

DIRECT REPLY

RECOMMENDATION

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### PREPARATION OF REPLY

REMARKS:

Subject: "Review Of World Affairs"

1. Your attention is invited to the attached circular describing a private intelligence agency's monthly publication entitled, "Review Of World Affairs."
2. Since we understand that this publication is not received in CIG., it occurred to me that your office may wish to subscribe to it.

**DONALD EDGAR**

25X1

(Continue "Remarks" on back, if necessary)

## ABOUT A GREAT INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

### WHAT REALLY HAPPENS BEHIND THE SCENES 23070

Away in Europe, in the depths of England is a famous 13th Century house—the scene of many political discussions during the centuries—which is now one of the centres of the best private intelligence system in the world. Travellers from the oddest and queerest corners of the world, great Ambassadors and Ministers, politicians and strategists, visit this house which contains some of the greatest secrets of high affairs. . . News from all over the world flows in. The quiet little village at its Park Gates goes about its business : occasionally the villagers see a sleek fast car sliding into the gates or making its way late in the evening towards London. On a Sunday they see strange, unfamiliar foreign visitors in the Big House pew . . . it is whispered that it all has something to do with Great Affairs, and indeed it has.

We live in strange times . . . The drama ahead will exceed even the terrific one of the last six years. The wise citizen will by now have made up his or her mind that the great rule governing a high Commander in War equally applies in private affairs, viz., that first-class intelligence is a condition of success. In present conditions the citizen who does not know what is really happening, and what is probably going to happen, cannot avoid making ghastly mistakes in private life, business and politics.

Sound knowledge of what is going on behind the headlines has become a condition of success in all walks of life.

The Germans once went to the length of issuing a warning memorandum to their troops in the Middle East about the dangers of the observation system this pamphlet mentions. The enemy feared and hated it.

It is vital that we should know broadly what the true state of our affairs really is—how we stand—what is really going to happen at

home and abroad. This is an overwhelming need. The results of ignorance are dire.

It we dare to look back over the years, we find we were told German tanks were made of cardboard, that France was fighting fit, that the Balkans were collectively determined to oppose aggression. Poland was to fight for a year, while France took the offensive in the west and so on.

Now, again, an incredible amount of rubbish is widely believed. The real facts are not at all known. Some say that it all works out in the end—but *does* it? As a result of ignorance of the facts we have had a very long war, producing untold suffering.

The time has come when one of the highest duties to which responsible men can devote themselves is to build up a special informatory service which will really give the public facts. Something more than mere headline flashes.

Of exactly such a chronicle a **British Ex-Cabinet Minister** whose name was a household word, wrote:—

“I have repeatedly been told by men in responsible positions that they read and value your Review as the soundest and most authoritative outside official publications that they are able to see.”

And before he died the scholar-soldier-statesman and famous novelist, **John Buchan**, wrote:—

“I have been greatly impressed . . . they are brilliantly written and I think they do valuable work in making people realize the different possibilities.”

But what *is* this:—

It is a digest of great contemporary affairs: A section a month by cable to the American continent. It is now in its *seventh brilliant year*, and is world known.

The author is Kenneth de Courcy, the political writer and traveller.

He has built up tremendous informatory sources. An average of about one telegram every three minutes reaches his office over the tickers all day and half the night. His contacts in politics and diplomacy are of the highest order. Special observers serve him in many spheres. He discussed and argued foreign policy with Mussolini, Ribbentrop, Schuschnigg, Flandin, Laval, Bonnet, President Benes, the late King Boris, and very many others. He first met de Gaulle in 1936! Hardly an Englishman had heard of him in those days.

He was probably the only Englishman to see General Weygand's famous confidential memorandum addressed to the French War Cabinet in 1940.

Where he couldn't travel himself, he was helped by members of a brilliant staff who travelled in the oddest places, learning almost incredible facts. They scoured Europe, Asia, parts of North Africa and South America. One of these young men met the pseudo-scientific German mission in Tibet. Another was a chief eye-witness of the great Turkish earthquakes in 1940. Another was assassinated in Palestine after an extraordinary trip through Europe and Turkey, productive of much remarkable knowledge.

There is no other private intelligence system in the world like it.

This Review has not only provided descriptions of some of the most dramatic events in history, but forecast many of them long in advance, such as :—

- (1) The Russo-German rapprochement of 1939, when all the press were saying the opposite.
- (2) The extreme weakness of Poland and the probability of quick collapse.
- (3) The weaknesses and divisions in the Balkans, and how the various countries there would react or crack.
- (4) Some of the fatal dangers in France.
- (5) The low morale of the Italian army, and the impossibility of Italian Commanders using it offensively, and finally, two-and-a-half years before it happened, an almost exact description of how the crash would probably come.
- (6) Turkey's real position.
- (7) The true condition of China ; etc., etc., etc.

This great Intelligence Digest provides fascinating information about events in America, China, Russia, India, inner British affairs and much else besides, such as the real historic reasons for the resignation of Mr. Eden, etc., and the innermost story of British and American politics.

**It is read all over the English-speaking world : by Intelligence Departments, higher Naval, Military, and Air Commanders, Cabinet Ministers, Government Departments, and very many thousands of other people. It is one of the best sellers in contemporary political literature.**

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